A DISTINCTION Between True Liberty and False.

GOD pouring out of his Spirit on all flesh, both on Sons and Daughters, Handmaids and Servants, &c. all are to walk in the liberty of this holy, pure, peaceable, gentle spirit of God, that keeps in humility and in tenderness and kindness, and leads into righteousness, godliness and holiness, and into modesty, sobriety, virtue and chastity, and into things that be of a good report. In this holy spirit of God is the pure holy liberty, the fruits of which is love and peace, &c. And this holy pure Spirit of God leads out of strife contention, hatred, malice and envy, and all unrighteousness, and ungodliness, and false liberty of the will and the flesh, and the inordinate and loose affections that are below. And if the will and the flesh and inordinate affections have not its loose liberty, they set the whole course of nature on fire with the unruly

will and tongue which is to be limited, kept down and mortified with the holy Spirit of God, in which Spirit is the unity kept, which is the bond of Peace, in the Church of Christ among all true Christians, that are called the *Houſhold of Faith*, and *of the Son of God*, who is over his houſe.

And the holy, divine, pure and precious Faith, which is the victory, and purifies the heart, Chriſt is the Auther and Finiſher of; and the myſtery of this Faith is held in a pure conſcience; by which Faith all the Faithfull have acceſs to God, and in it do pleaſe God. And in this Faith all the Houſhold of God have unity and liberty, who are called the *Houſhold of Faith*. Now this pure holy Spirit of God he pours upon all fleſh, and the holy divine Faith cannot admit nor joyn to any looſe or falſe liberty, to the will of the fleſh, or inordinate affections, or to that which is immodeſt, or not vertuous, or unchaſt or uncivill, or of an evill report, or to any thing that is unreaſonable, or unjuſt, or ungodly: for ſuch things are to be mortified by the holy Spirit of God, which the unity and liberty is in; And the holy divine Faith purifies Gods people from ſuch things, and gives victory over them, which Faith works by love: And the pure Conſcience hath its liberty, which it is held in, and in it all the faithfull are in unity in which they know they pleaſe God; and this is the faith of Gods Elect, by which the Juſt do live, which gives them victory over the Devil and his works, and that which is unjuſt and unrighteous, and purifies the hearts of ſuch as be defiled by it from that which defiles it. And Chriſt Jeſus enlightens every man that comes into the world, which Light is the Life in Chriſt the Word, by whom all things were made: And the Grace of God, which

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34

which brings ſalvation hath appeared to all men: Now in this Light and Life of Chriſt, and in this Grace of God, which brings ſalvation, is the true liberty, and brings to ſtand faſt in the true *liberty* in Chriſt the Light and Life, who makes them free, from all bondages and falſe liberties: for all liberties, out of the Spirit of Grace and Light and Life of Chriſt, are bondages: for Light cannot have unity with the ſpirit of darkneſs, the works of darkneſs: And the Light of Chriſt gives both underſtanding and knowledg of all falſe liberties out of Chriſt Jeſus, and cannot joyn with them in thoſe liberties which are out of the Light and Grace of Chriſt, no more now then the Apoſtles and Church in the primitive times could with ſuch in their days. The Jews who oppoſed *Moſes* and the Prophets in their Ages, and ſpake againſt them, who were great profeſſers of the Scriptures, did not come into the unity and liberty of the holy Ghoſt the Prophets were in: The holy Prophets of God were ſubiect one to another in the ſpirit of God; but the profeſſing Jews that erred from the ſpirit, and rebelled againſt it, were not ſubject to the ſpirit of the Prophets and ſo were neither in the liberty nor unity in the ſpirit of God. And when Chriſt came who was conceived by the holy Ghoſt, &c. And holy Men of God who ſpake forth Scriptures, as moved by the holy Ghoſt; The Jews who profeſſed all theſe ſcriptures, that were given forth from the holy Ghoſt, oppoſed Chriſt and the holy men, and reſiſted the holy Ghoſt, theſe did not come into the Liberty of Chriſt Jeſus, and the Liberty or Communion of the holy Ghoſt; And all thoſe in the Apoſtles days, that made an outward profeſſion of Chriſtianity, which the Apoſtles and the Churches were troubled withall, and ſome of the ſeven Churches were troubled with alſo,

which were as raging waves of the ſea, which foamed out their own ſhame, and caſting up their mire and dirt, in *Cain*'s way of envy, *Core*'s way of gainſaying, and in the error of *Balaam*, from the ſpirit of God; wells without the water of life, trees without holy fruit, twice dead, dead in *Adam*, and made alive, dead again, and plucked up by the roots, that cannot grow in the life of Chriſt, and are become ſynagogues of Satan, puffed up with high ſwelling words of vanity, and have fair words, and good ſpeeches, but wandring ſtarrs, from the firmament of Gods power, not fit for the innocent to ſtear by, to the heavenly *Jeruſalem*, no more then the outward Marriners to ſtear their courſe by the outward wandring ſtars to an outward Port: And ſuch as the Apoſtle calls fierce deſpiſers of them that are good, incontiment, covenant-breakers, having a form of Godlineſs, but deny the power thereof, which were and are to be turned away from. Though ſuch as theſe before mentioned in the Apoſtles days, and now, may profeſs liberty for a cloak, to cloak their evil ſpirit, and its fruits; yet all ſuch Actions are not according to Chriſt, and the grace of God; for the grace of God has no union with fierce diſpiſers of them that are good, nor with ſuch as are puffed up with high ſwelling words of vanity. And though they have good words and fair ſpeeches, and an outward form of Godlineſs, yet deny the power thereof, and ſo deny the free liberty in the power of God, and ſo the liberty in Chriſt Jeſus, and ſo the liberty in his grace and light, which is a gracious liberty, that brings people into favour with God. And the Apoſtles of the true Churches, did withſtand all looſe & falſe ſpirits, and had no unity nor followſhip with them of *Cain*'s, *Core*'s, *Balaam*'s,

Balaam's, trees without fruit, wandring ſtars, wells without water; raging waves of the Sea, caſting up mire and dirt, as they do now againſt the righteous. Such as bore theſe fruits their liberty is not in the ſpirit of Grace, nor in the light and life of Chriſt. And ſuch the Church of Chriſt in the Apoſtles days, and now have not unity with, neither can they joyn with them in unity & liberty, that are not in the ſpirit of grace, light and life in Chriſt Jeſus; in which all true liberty is, in Chriſt the Truth that makes them free.

And that ſpirit that leavens people into malice, hatred, envy, evil ſurmiſing, falſe jealouſies, & into rage, & the root of bitterneſs and into diſputings & janglings, and whoſe words eat like a Kanker, & they who make a profeſſion in words of the Truth, & live not peaceable and walk not in Chriſt, but are puffed up with many idle notions & vain conceits; ſuch fruits are not from the ſpirit of grace, light and life of Chriſt; nor in true faith, which works by love, in which true unity is, & liberty, & love that bears all things, love that doth not envy, and is not puffed up. For they that profeſs Knowledg and Faith, and want this love of God, they were called as tinkling Cymbals, and ſounding braſs, in the Apoſtles days, and ſo they are now. And Gods people cannot ſet up a tinkling Cymbal and ſounding braſs for the life of righteouſneſs and Truth; though a tinkling Cymbal and ſounding braſs may deceive the ſimple, and ſuch may devour them. But it's love that unites all the members of Chriſt together, to him the head; in which love they are built up together a ſpiritual houſhold. And the wiſdom that's pure and peaceable, gentle and eaſie to be intreated, this is from above: But the wiſdom that is from below is earthly ſenſual

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and devilliſh; and men that are in this wiſdom, and pretends knowledg and faith, without the love of God, and are incontiment, fierce, deſpiſers of thoſe that are good with their fair words and good ſpeeches, and pufft up with high ſwelling words of vanity, vain Diſputes, Janglers, *in a form of Godlineſs, but out of the power*, with ſuch the Church of Chriſt had never unity: And that liberty of thoſe fruits is not in the Spirit of Grace and Light and Life of Chriſt; and by their Fruits ſuch were, and are known to them whoſe liberty and unity is in the Light and Grace which is in Chriſt Jeſus; and in the Grace of God that hath appeared to all men, and in his Spirit which he hath poured on all Fleſh, the light which is the life in Chriſt which enlightens every man that comes into the world, all men and women are to have their Liberty in Chriſt Jeſus, in which they all have unity, and an everlaſting liberty and unity, and fellowſhip in the everlaſting Son of God, in Chriſt the Head, and in Chriſt the Head they are joyned together by his Light, Life & Spirit of Grace: and all that walk contrary to the Light Life and Spirit of Grace, let them profeſs what they will, they are not in the true Liberty & true Freedom, nor in the true Fellowſhip with the Father & the Son, and his people: for the true liberty & unity is in the Spirit, Light & Life of Chriſt, to which all men and women, from the firſt have been directed, that in it they may all live and walk in the true Freedom, Liberty and Unity and Fellowſhip with the Father and the Son, and one with another. And the true Freedom and liberty is in the Goſpel, *in the glorious Goſpel of Life, Peace and Salvation*; which Goſpel is the *Power of God, preached to, and in every creature under Heaven*; and every ones converſation muſt

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be according to this glorious Gospel of Life, Peace and Salvation: For they who order their Conversation aright by the Gospel, do see and receive this Gospel of peace, life and salvation. And in this Gospel, the Power of God, is the true glorious, peaceable freedom and liberty in the life and salvation in Christ Jesus: And all that do profess the Gospel of Christ the Power of God in words, and do not live and walk in the Gospel the Power of God, they are in bondage under the power of darkness, and are out of the peaceable free liberty of the glorious Gospel of life and salvation, like the raging waves of the Sea, casting up mire and dirt, as I said before, and in their vain Janglings and Disputings and false Jealousies, Murmurings and Complainings, Revilings, Railings, Defamings, Unstablished, and to every good work and service of God reprobate. And from such spirits & leaven God Almighty keep & preserve his people in his Light, Truth, and Spirit of Grace and holy Faith in Christ Jesus, who is the holy and heavenly Rock and Foundation, in him they have life and peace vvith God, & are in the holy Liberty and Freedom: And in him, namely in Christ Jesus, my desire is, that all his true and faithfull Followvers may stand fast, in their holy and pure liberty, in him vvho is holy and pure, vvho vvas *First*, and is *Last*, and novv is the Rest of his people, the *Amen*.

London the 12th of the 8th month, 1685

G. F.

THE END.